

Volume 8, Edition 9

# Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS



September 2004



## **WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THIS PICTURE?**

**ATTEND THE SEPTEMBER VOMARC MEETING AT THE  
SONOMA FIRE STATION, 630 SECOND STREET WEST, THIS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT 7:30 P.M. AND FIND OUT  
IF JOAN IS GIVING ED AND JAN THE COLD SHOULDER, DOES  
ED HAVE A STOMACH ACHE FROM THE TAINTED FOOD, IS**

**JAN REACTING TO A REALLY BAD JOKE? YOU'LL ONLY KNOW**  
**IF YOU ARE AT THE MEETING!**  
**(KINDA EXCITING, LIKE THOSE DAYTIME TV SHOWS, HUH?)**

## **FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL**

The Vintage Festival parade is this Sept. 26th and if you haven't yet signed up to help, please let me know if you can. This parade is usually not as long as the 4th of July, so should be over in less than an hour.

Just a reminder that Pacificon is coming up on the 15th through the 17th of Oct. For those of us who just can't get to Hamfest in Ohio, this is the next best thing. Lots of great talks, the Friday antenna forum and the flea market on Sunday (bring flashlight). For more info, go to [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) or [www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org).

Last month's ACS training session was a very productive day. With all the dry hills around us, it would be wise for all of us to be prepared to respond if needed.

September is National Preparedness month. The ARRL is encouraging affiliated clubs to set up stations in their community to demonstrate the benefits of ham radio during an emergency. If there is some interest in the club, we could set up a field day type station in the plaza during the Vintage Festival. Let me know what you think and if you would be able to help staff it.

Kermit sends his "Hello" to the

group. He can be reached at [kermit@wans.com](mailto:kermit@wans.com).

John is working diligently on the club's history. If you have any documents, old newsletters or anything else that might help John, please bring it to the next meeting, especially for the 1980's.

This month's meeting will be at the Sonoma Fire station on 2nd Street

West. I have a nice video on the history of communications, starting with smoke signals and ending with fiber optics that I would like to show to the group. Of course radio is included, with some nice pictures of old ham equipment.

See you on the bands.  
73, Jim

## **XMAS DINNER DATE SET**

The VOMARC Christmas dinner will be held at The Depot Restaurant on December 15. There will be a choice of chicken, veal or pasta at \$36 including salad and desert with a no host bar.

## **VOMARC MINUTES AUGUST 18, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM. There were 19 in attendance.

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR, presented a program on his trip with Ashley, KG6LJP, to the Oshkosh Airshow.

July minutes were not in the newsletter or on the website. It was voted to accept them without being read.

Treasurer's report: \$1077.04. There will be an officer's meeting at 6PM at the Black Bear prior to the September Club meeting to discuss the budget for next year. The results of the budget meeting will be presented to the members at the next meeting. There will be a complete list of club assets available at the next meeting. The crank up antenna with base is still for sale. Also a Kenwood TS 520 owned by the club is for sale.

Mike, WB6TMH, had all the HT antenna's that were built at the August club meeting available for those who want one. A donation to the club of \$5.00 is suggested. After the ACS net last Monday, Jim Hill, K6UW, tested one of the new antenna's. It worked much better than the standard rubber ducky.

The Vintage Festival Parade is slated to be at noon on September 26, 2004. At this time there is still discussion as to whether it will happen or will be called off. We will proceed as if it will happen so we are prepared. All volunteers will be notified if it fails to take place.

ACS Report: The deadline for registering for the August 28, 2004, ACS training in Santa Rosa is August 20, 2004. Pictures will be taken for new

county ID cards at that time. Anyone not there will need to make an appointment in Santa Rosa to have their picture taken for a new ID card. If you miss the registration date, you may still attend, but you will be on your own for lunch. It is rumored that ACS may be getting rid of the orange vests and getting hats instead. At this point, that is unconfirmed. The county has purchased several standardized stations, Alinco 220 mobile rigs, plus two Kenwood multi-channel commercial band rigs that serve the low band and public service frequencies. The equipment includes a tri-band antenna to serve all three radios. The power supply is included. The goal is to standardize all emergency stations.

There will be a hospital drill November 13, 2004, in the morning. Anyone able to attend is welcome.

We need volunteers for the Air Show at Charles Schultz Airport this week end. The event starts at 7:30AM. Volunteers get in free and get free eats.

Old Business:

The VE session had two people show up for their test and both passed. Joel Nader, NN6J, will be the new VE coordinator since Randy Larsen has had to step down.

We still have VOMARC T-shirts for sale for \$15 each.

## New Business:

Dick Hanna will be attending a class during the time he is to be net control and will trade with Dan, KD6LJN.

We have four volunteers for the Vintage Festival parade and need four more.

The location for the annual end of the year dinner and installation of officers in December was discussed. Various suggestions were made for a location. It was moved, seconded that the location be the Depot Hotel. The motion passed. The location of the dinner will be the Depot Hotel. The date and cost of the dinner will be announced shortly.

Advertising our club events and meetings was discussed. It is acknowledged we need to be more regular in having items in both the IT & the Sun. Darrell will have the meeting calendar in the newsletter.

KSBY radio wants a roll in emergency preparedness. Jim will investigate. It is possible something can be arranged for advertising our meetings on the radio station.

Pacificon will be in October. Anyone who has not attended a Pacificon conference really needs to attend at least once.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

## **THE "FOR SALE" PART**

The club still has Frank Masten's old crank-up tower for sale. It is a two section guyed 35 foot telescoping tower and would be good for a VHF or lighter HF beam. The price on this one is \$100, so give Jim, K6UUW, 935-7441, or Darrel, WD6BOR, 996-4494, a call to discuss price.

We may have another tower coming up for sale in the near future. It is a 54 foot, three section telescoping free standing tower that is rated, I think, for 15 to 18 square feet of antenna wind loading. WD6BOR had a raising fixture to help install the tower. The base requires a hole 3x3x6 feet deep and two yards of concrete, so it will last. The equivalent tower lists for over \$1500 plus shipping. This one should sell for about \$500 to \$700. Call Jim or Darrel to discuss purchasing this tower.

Your editor still has a couple radios and some other gear for sale. One is a Kenwood TS-430 all band HF transceiver that was previously owned by Jim Hill. It is working and comes with his home-brew power supply, a Kenwood hand microphone with up/down buttons, and power cables. I paid \$300 for it and then bought the microphone on Ebay to match. I would like to get my cost back, so am asking \$345.

The second radio is a Kenwood TS-440AT all band transceiver with built-in automatic antenna

tuner, matching power supply and Kenwood hand microphone with up/down buttons. The rig is working, and I would like to get \$475 for this rig.

I also still have two 100 watt low pass (0 to 30 MHz) filters, as well as my old Heathkit 2036A 2 meter transceiver. I am asking \$25 each for the filters and \$40 for the Heathkit. I haven't turned the 2036A on for a while, but I will warm it up before selling just to make sure it still works.

73, Darrel, WD6BOR, 996-4494

Send your for sale items in for the next newsletter!

## **THE VOMARC WIRELESS**

### **VOLUME 8 EDITION 9**

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club - W6AJF

Frank C. Jones - W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Jim Hill, K6UUW - President

George Maurer, K6ITE- Vice-Pres

Joan Brady, W6WXU - Secretary

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Treasurer

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Membership Chair

Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - ACS

Jan Bush, AE6FQ - Webmeister

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - Editor

***Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.***

**CLUB MEETINGS** are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 630 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

### **WEB PAGE:**

**<http://www.vomarc.org/>**

**Nets** are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

**ACS** holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

**PACKET STATION INFO:** The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

**CLUB BREAKFASTS** are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

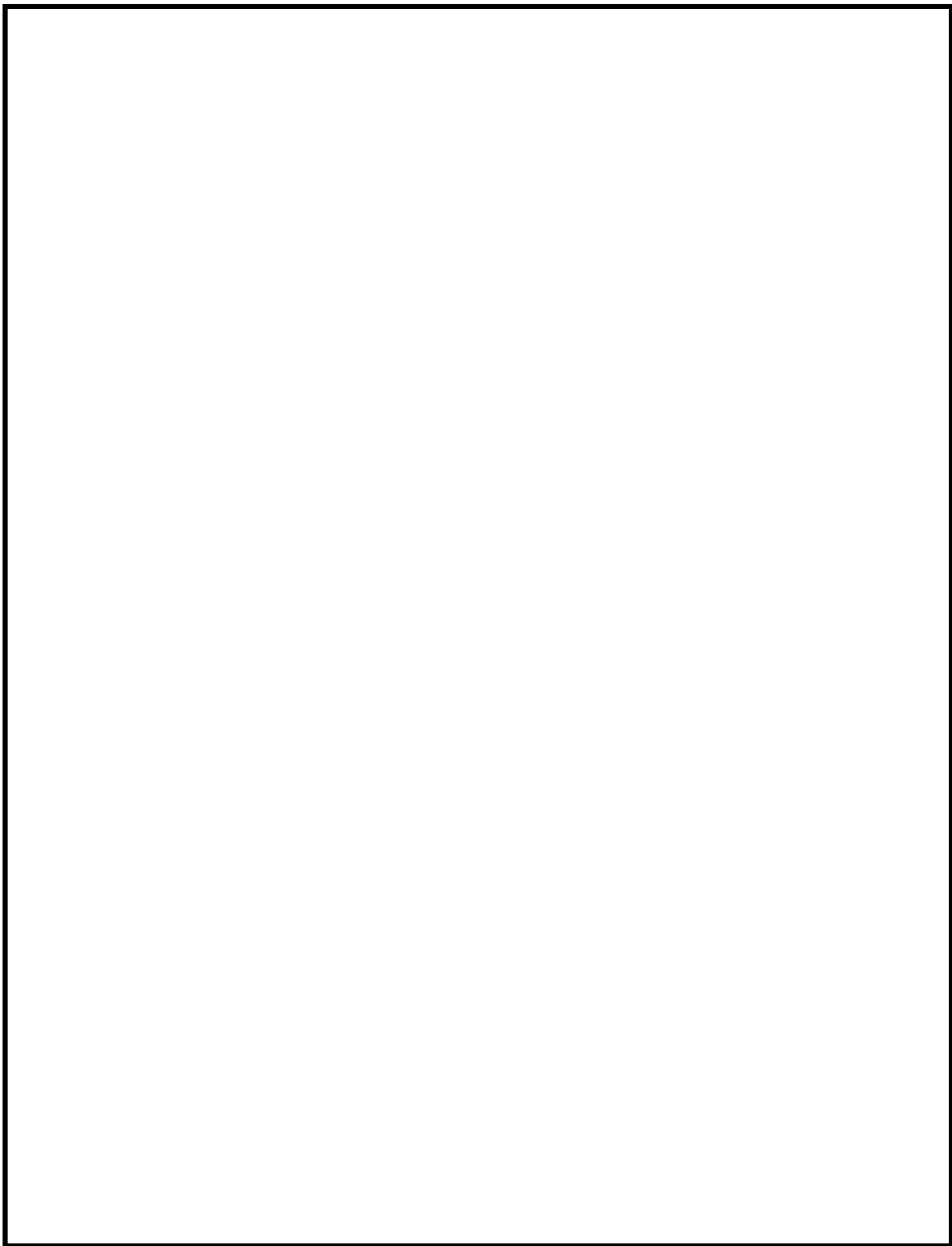
Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

[wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com)

### **Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.**

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon  
ARC  
1496 Nut Tree Lane  
Sonoma, CA 95470**

**NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE  
SONOMA FIRE STATION, 630 SECOND STREET WEST  
CU THERE!**

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**VOMARC MEMBERSHIP**

**VOMARC 2004** Membership Dues: \$10/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

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VOMARC: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Moment, From the Database Queen**

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, or Jim K6UUW, 1496 Nut Tree Lane, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to:

**VOMARC**